Have You Seen...

...an unofficial missing poster – on paper or online – asking you to call someone's parent, spouse, or caregiver?

Security experts, online safety professionals, and victims' advocates say:

"I cannot tell you how many times I have seen a "missing person" situation turn into the "missing" person writing in to ask us to *enforce their restraining order* [against the poster-maker]."

"I worked in a shelter for years and people would call looking for someone... We were trained to *never answer* these types of questions. I've met [shelter guests] trying to get away from every type of 'loved one.'"

"For a good while I got 'this is my abuser, please make them stop' requests for 70-80% of the viral unofficial 'missing persons' posts crossing my feed.

… The abusers who do this are very, very good at convincing you their 'missing person' is irrational, in danger, or has diminished capacity. You will never be able to spot these situations by reading over a single post or poster."

"Teenagers do not run away from home for no reason. *Think carefully* about whether it is worth the risk that you are helping to capture people desperate to be free."

WHAT TO DO:

IF you do spot / know the person on the poster – TELL THAT PERSON that *someone is looking for them,* INSTEAD OF providing any information to the person doing the looking.

Learn more www.youthrights.org/guest-post-missing-teenager/

or www.missingkids.org/blog/2023/spot-fake-missing-posters